

REMARKS

Claims 1-31 are pending while claims 4 and 25-30 are rejected. The Applicants wish to cordially thank the Examiner for indication of the allowable subject matter with respect to claims 1-3, 5-24, and 31. In addition, Applicants Attorney wish to cordially thank the Examiner for the opportunity to discuss the Advisory Action and amendments to claims 4 and 25 to put the case in a condition for allowance. Claim 28 has been canceled while claims 4 and 25 have been amended, leaving claims 1-27 and 29-31 for consideration upon entry of this amendment. No new matter has been added. It is respectfully submitted that the amendments herein do not change the scope of the claims necessitating further search, as claim 4 depends from allowed claim 1, while the amendment to independent claim 25 is in conformance with the allowed subject matter indicated in claim 28 in Paper No. 0204.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §112

Claims 4 and 25-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicants respectfully traverse.

With respect to claim 4, the Examiner alleges that claim 4 recites a power supply configured to provide an anode-to-cathode gap voltage, the anode is referenced to ground potential and the cathode is connected to a negative terminal of a second power supply. The Examiner alleges that it is unclear how the power supply provides the anode-to-cathode voltage if the second power supply provides a negative potential to the cathode. Furthermore, the Examiner correctly points out that there is insufficient antecedent basis for the limitation "said second power supply" in this claim.

Claim 4 has been amended to delete reference to "a second power supply" and recite -- said power supply-- as introduced in claim 1. Thus, there is antecedent basis for "said power supply" recited in claim 4. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claim 4 is clear with respect to reciting "wherein said anode is referenced to ground potential and said cathode is connected to a negative terminal of said second power supply," as Figure 2 illustrates that the anode is referenced to ground in the absence of power supply (230) and that the cathode is connected to a negative potential, i.e., (-) of the power supply (232). Moreover, claim 4

introduces that the x-ray tube is "bipolar" as supported in the specification at least at the first paragraph on page 7 and Figure 2.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection to claim 4 be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections -35 USC § 102

Claims 25, 26, 29, and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Halavee (U. S. Patent No. 6,324,257 B1). Applicants respectfully traverse.

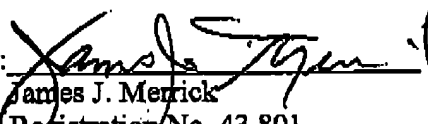
With respect to independent claim 25, from which claims 26-30 depend, Applicants have amended claim 25 to include the allowable subject matter indicated with respect to claim 28 in Paper No. 0204, thus rendering this rejection moot. Thus, claim 25, including claims depending therefrom, i.e., claims 26, 27, 29, and 30, define over Halavee.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and a Notice of Allowance issued. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicants' attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is cordially requested to telephone the undersigned.

In the event the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks deems additional fees to be due in connection with this application, Applicants' attorney hereby authorizes that such fees be charged to Deposit Account No. 07-0845 maintained by Applicants' Assignee.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
James J. Merrick
Registration No. 43,801
Customer No. 23413

Date: August 4, 2004
Address: 55 Griffin Road South Bloomfield, CT 06002
Telephone: (860) 286-2929